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## The Nice Guys



For those of you who enjoy a good buddy or bromance movie, I have just the right one for you. *The Nice Guys* pits tough guy outside the law enforcer Russell Crowe against misfit private eye Ryan Gosling for what can only be described as a devilish romp across the City of Angels circa 1977. They are brought together by a

mystery woman whose disappearance leads them on a twisted journey involving a dead porn star and the solution to our gasoline woes.

You might think that this is a little convoluted, and it is, but with the deft comedy timing of Gosling, the paunchy machismo of Crowe and the something to hide in the beautiful package of Kim Basinger, you have the recipe for popcorn chomping good time. *The Nice Guys* is clearly a throwback at a time when we could use a little noir escapism. Chases and fist fights and subplots help pull us out of the mundane and into a different time and place.

Crowe and Gosling are well matched although you have to give the edge to Crowe for pure brute force and wry aggression. Every so often you just go to the movies to get away from it all. No hidden meanings, no redeeming social message. This movie is just a little fun in the middle of the day that may appeal to the conspiracy theorists among us.

Back in the day, movies like *Lethal Weapon* and *Smokey and the Bandit* gave us the same sort of wild ride. While this may not become a classic to the same degree, *The Nice Guys* has a modern feel to a retro look. This is a good date night or Sunday matinee choice. I give *The Nice Guys* 3 golden tickets.

